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THE EGYPTIAN LOTUS.

(*Nelumbium Speciosam.*)

The Flower Dedicated to Oblivion.

 O flower in the history of the world has been so identified with the religious and poetic lore of Egypt and India as the lotus of the Nile and the Ganges. The blossoms are held sacred by both of these nations, and are carved in enduring stone upon the monoliths of their temples, on the lids of ponderous sarcophagi, and graven upon medals and precious intaglios. To the Egyptians it was the accepted emblem of the deity, symbolizing the birth of Osiris during one of his manifold transformations, when he became Khepra, or the sun god.

The wise men of Egypt believed that water was the origin of all things, and that the lotus as it disappears beneath the waves of the Nile, is typical of Khepra, or the sun, forever dying and always being born again. To the Christian this blossom is an appropriate emblem of the resurrection, for as soon as the water is warmed by the rays of the rising sun the flower becomes instilled with life as if awakened to immortality. The diurnal closing and unfolding never ceases until the blossom perishes and the seed vessels are formed. The plants were considered sacred on account of the orbicular shape of the leaves, which typify perfection and eternity; it is besides dedicated to purity and fecundity. The buds and blossoms are laid as offerings upon the altars of the heathen deities in all religious ceremonies, and the statues of Osiris, the creative principle, were always crowned with them. Amphoræ, filled with lotus flowers were placed before the host at feasts, and slaves wreathed the brows of the guests with the white or pale tinted buds.

and Union Square, New York. There is a pond in New Jersey where the plant flourishes, and although the water is frozen over during the winter season, the roots are not killed, but blossom in the summer time just as they do in the waters of their native Nile.

The lotus is as abundant in India as it is in Egypt, and the latter country produces many

eating of the fruit blissful rest, immunity from care and forgetfulness of friends and country was the result. Homer, in his Odyssey recounts how the followers of Ulysses partook of the seductive fruit and became oblivious of their past. Herodotus, who is the most reliable and conscientious of the ancient historians, designates a nation dwelling upon the coast of



THE LOTUS IN JAPAN.

specimens not indigenous to the land of the Pharos. In Brahmin mythology, which offers so many points of resemblance to that of Egypt, the lotus was worshipped as representing the creative principle; the chalice, where the crimson lotus was venerated as the supposed cradle of the deity. According to Buddhistic mythology Brahma was borne across the unfathomable

Africa as *Lotophagi*, or lotus-eaters, the word being derived from the Greek *loto*, the name of the plant, and *phago*, meaning to eat. The learned Grecian describes the fruit as bearing a close resemblance to that of the African date, while other writers compare it to a bean or olive. The Egyptians at one time manufactured flour from the dried and pulverized seeds, which it is asserted made excellent bread. This was finally forbidden by the priests on account of the sacred character of the plant. The root is also edible, about the shape and size of an apple, and emitting a penetrating and agreeable odor.

Theophrastus, a Greek philosopher, says that during the protracted march of the army of Ophelius, the soldiers having no other sustenance, subsisted solely upon the nourishment derived from the plants which grew in abundance along their route. Polybius tells us that by macerating the seeds in water a delicious drink may be concocted, which is both stimulating and palatable. Pliny also speaks of this beverage, which he declared could not be preserved longer than eight days.

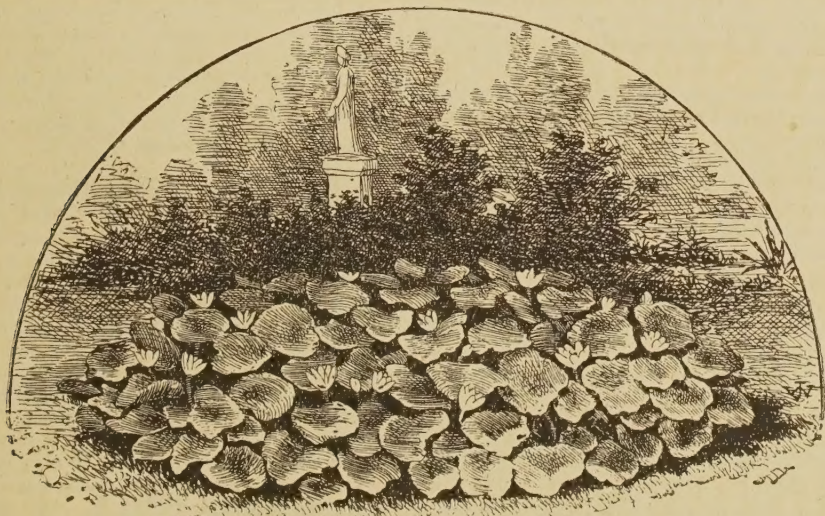
Tennyson bases one of his most beautiful poems on the superstition of the ancients as to the efficacy of the lotus to bestow the boon of complete oblivion on all those who partook of the fruit. He says:

"Branches they bore of that enchanted stem,
Laden with flower and fruit whereof they gave
To each, but whoso did receive them
And taste, to him the gushing of the wave
Far, far away did seem to mourn and rave on alien
shores."

Again he says:

"Let us swear an oath and keep it with an equal
mind,
In the hollow Lotus sent to live, and lie reclined
On the hills like Gods together careless of mankind."

The species of *Nelumbium* are few and are



EGYPTIAN LOTUS IN SHAW'S GARDEN, ST. LOUIS, MO.

The flowers offer a great diversity of color, and are white, crimson, blue, pink and yellow. They often attain to the height of five feet, varying with the depth of the water on which they float. The *nymphaea carulea* is the species generally represented on bas reliefs, and is the best known variety. The lotus is successfully grown in this country, notably in Central Park

abyss seated upon a gigantic lotus flower, which was also emblematic of abundance and prosperity. In sculpture Vishnu is seen reclining upon the expanded petals of wide open lotus flowers, whose perfume was supposed to permeate the atmosphere to the distance of eight hundred miles.

The ancients entertained the belief that by

found in the warm parts of Asia, in the north of Africa, and in North America. It is the Egyptian Bean of Pythagoras, the Lotus of the Hindus, held sacred by the people of Thibet. It is cultivated in Japan, China, and elsewhere in the East, for its seeds, roots, leaf-stalks and flower-stalks, all of which are highly esteemed as food. It has been used as food by the Egyptians from remote antiquity. The seeds are in shape and size like acorns, with a taste more delicate than that of almonds. The root contains much starch, and Chinese arrow-root is said to be obtained from it. Slices of it are often served up at table in China. Great quantities are pickled with salt and vinegar and eaten with rice.

This beautiful flower is raised in Shaw's Garden, St. Louis, where a number of specimens of the plant are in full bloom each summer. They attract a great deal of attention from the many visitors, who admire the beautiful flowers and look with curiosity at the large seed vessels which can be seen in all stages of growth.

Lima Beans for a Small Garden.

Have you ever noticed how seldom pole Limas are found in suburban and village gardens? I suppose it is because they take up too much space and it is difficult to obtain the poles, and they are often considered unsightly in the otherwise trim little garden. The bush Limas are very nice; in fact some of the new varieties are grand. Still they do not seem to quite fill the place of the large, plump, delicious pole Limas, and we determined to plant a quantity of these, and yet not have to bother with the poles.

Dividing the vegetable garden from the lawn and flower garden we have a long grape arbor sixty-five feet long, with the slats in an upright position. As the grape vines were too young to fill all that space we planted the hills of Lima beans all along that sixty-five feet of arbor wherever we could find room without crowding the grape vines. Planted early in May, four or five in each hill about three inches deep, each hill well fertilized, we had an abundance of this very desirable vegetable without taking the space needed for others and without bother of poles. I suppose in time the grape vines will fill the arbor and there will be no room for the beans, but we intend to try the plan again this year, and I am sure that all who have a small garden, with a grape arbor which is not used, will find this method very satisfactory.

Philadelphia.

PHEBE R.

Planting for Others.

Some one recently objected to planting walnut trees, because he would not live to see the fruits of his labors. Could anything be more selfish than this? To whom, pray, is he indebted for the fruit he eats every day, says *Plain Talk*. Certainly he himself did not plant the trees from which are obtained all the walnuts, chestnuts, oranges, apples, pears, etc., which find their way to his table, and he surely should be willing to do as much for others as they have done for him.

The writer remembers with great pleasure visiting an old farm in Iowa, with an old man, and noting his actual affection for the trees which he and "sister Lucy" had planted when children. I sent a peck of horse chestnuts, in with other things into a section of Kansas, where they did not then grow. This was more than ten years ago and now a whole town is sprinkled with good sized horse chestnut trees.

In Spain as one walks along the road eating fruit, it is the custom to dig a hole with the heel and plant the stone or seed. As a consequence, all along their roads are to be found fruit trees in full bearing, from which the wayfarer may pick at his pleasure. They have been planted for the benefit of the public and the public is welcome to pluck and eat.

For Vick's Magazine.

Love your Neighbor!

I've a law that lightens labor,
"As myself to love my neighbor,"
Kept the spirit not in letter
For I love her vastly better.

Just across the fields of clover
Was her home—I asked her over
Into mine, this winsome neighbor,
And her love makes light my labor.

Is your garden wintry, lonely?
This is all it needs, this only,
Love that makes the joy of living,
Love that's sweetest in the giving.

—Nelly Hart Woodworth.

Weather Signals.

The Weather Bureau of the Department of Agriculture makes an announcement of its code of signals by means of steam whistles. It appears probable that the users of steam whistles will generally co-operate in announcing the signals which must prove of great value to the community. The use of steam whistles for announcing the weather forecasts has rapidly grown in favor among farmers. Wherever a mill or factory using steam is within the reach of the telegraph or telephone, or by evening or early morning trains or stages, the daily forecasts can be received and announced to farmers and others living within a circle of several miles. The whistle code is very simple, easily learned and remembered.

EXPLANATION OF WHISTLE SIGNALS.

Note.—The warning signal, to attract attention, will be a long blast of from fifteen to twenty seconds duration. After this warning signal has been sounded, long blasts (of from four to six seconds duration) refer to weather, and short blasts (of from one to three seconds duration) refer to temperature; those for weather to be sounded first.

One long blast indicates fair weather, stationary temperature; two long blasts indicate rain or snow, stationary temperature; three long blasts indicate local rains; one short blast indicates lower temperature; two short blasts indicate higher temperature; three short blasts indicate cold wave.

INTERPRETATION OF COMBINATION BLASTS.

One long and one short blast indicate fair weather, lower temperature; two long and two short blasts indicate rain or snow, higher temperature; one long and three short blasts indicate fair weather, cold wave; three long and two short blasts indicate local rains, higher temperature.

(By repeating each combination a few times, with an interval of ten seconds between, possibilities of error in reading forecasts will be avoided, such as may arise from variable winds, or failure to hear the warning signals.)

It is found that owners of mills and factories are very willing to co-operate with farmers and others in the use of the whistle signals.

Free Mail Delivery.

Have just read your March MAGAZINE. Approve of all you say about better roads, but think you fail to see the other side of "free delivery of mails in country places." Think if you were living five miles from the post-office, in part situated as we are, you would feel differently about it. Now suppose we could get our mail at reduced rates and larger packages, it seems to me it would not amount to much in comparison with the advantage of having it brought to the door instead of being obliged to use time, team and driver in the pressure of spring work, and drive five miles, perhaps three or four times, for one parcel of plants, which, of course, must be had as soon as possible. And, again, why have not country people a right to the advantage of the daily papers? To what class of people could the weather indications be of more advantage than to the farmers?

Why, I would rather pay five cents letter postage than one cent and have to go for the mail the rest of my natural life. In regard to the expense Mr. Wanamaker, the Postmaster General, states officially in an article over his own signature that "it is clear from the figures at hand, that the increased revenue more than paid all the increased expense." In other words, people in towns provided with free delivery bought enough more postage stamps to pay the cost of the free delivery system which averaged about \$200 per township per year. Some towns showed no increase while others showed an enormous increase, so that the average increased revenue of the whole number of offices where the trial was made was sufficient to pay the increased expense.

Now, if this is the case in a few country towns where the system was introduced on trial, how much more likely is it that when free delivery is universal the increased sale of stamps will be far more than enough to pay the cost of such delivery? As I understand the matter the free delivery of mails has been tried in 47 offices in 31 different States as an experiment and proven a success. If I were testing a certain lot of seeds and proved them good, I think it would seem rather wild to burn them up and go without planting when I had been to the expense.

J. E. WOODING.

New Haven, Conn.

Month after Month.

Turn, turn, my wheel! Turn round and round,
Without a pause, without a sound;
So spins the flying world away!
This clay, well mixed with marl and sand,
Follows the motion of my hand;
For some must follow, and some command,
Though all are made of clay!

—Longfellow.

Summer Drinks.

The celebrated Dr. Parker makes the following suggestions in regard to drinks for laborers, either summer or winter:

"When you have any heavy work to do, do not take either beer, cider, or spirits. By far the best drink is thin oatmeal and water, with a little sugar. The proportions are a quarter of a pound of oatmeal to two or three quarts of water, according to the heat of the day and your work and thirst. It should be well boiled, and then an ounce or an ounce and a half of brown sugar added. If you find it thicker than you like, add three quarts of water. Before you drink it, shake up the oatmeal well through the liquid. In summer drink this cold; in winter, hot. You will find it not only quenches thirst, but will give you more strength and endurance than any other drink. If you cannot boil it, you can take a little oatmeal mixed with cold water and sugar, but this is not so good. Always boil it if you can. If at any time you have to make a long day, as in harvest, and cannot stop for meals, increase the oatmeal to half a pound, or even three-quarters, and the water to three quarts if you are likely to be very thirsty. If you cannot get oatmeal, wheat flour will do, but not quite so well. For quenching thirst, few things are better than weak coffee and a little sugar. One ounce of coffee and half an ounce of sugar, boiled in two quarts of water and cooled, is a very thirst-quenching drink. Cold tea has the same effect, but neither is so supporting as oatmeal. Thin cocoa is also very refreshing and supporting likewise, but is more expensive than oatmeal."

The Hawaiian Islands were discovered by Gaetano, a Spanish navigator, in 1542. The independence of these islands was recognized by the United States in 1829, and more formally in 1843; by Belgium in 1844, and by England and France later in the same year.

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For Vick's Magazine.

Thank God for the Flowers.

Thank God for the flowers—
That blossom so sweetly and fair;
They garnish this strange life of ours
And brighten our paths everywhere.
Dexter Smith, 1880.

The weight of each anchor plate on the Brooklyn bridge is 23 tons, the height of the towers above the roadway is 159 feet. Just six years after the first wire was strung across the East river for the bridge the first passenger crossed.

Bright, pleasing and instructive, is what we aim to make Vick's Magazine, and at the price, 50 cents per year, it ought to be in half a million homes. Mention it to your neighbor.

Plain John Phelps was a man four feet, eleven inches high, rather effeminate looking, who lived in London. He must be a brave man now, as by paying the authorities 50 pounds he induced the crown authorities to change his name to Foster Grosvenor Fortescue Plantaganet! Possibly he is a forerunner of another war of the roses.

THE FACT

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Tuberose Bulbs.

Tuberose bulbs should be planted at intervals through the spring after the ground has become warm, in order to give a succession of bloom in summer and autumn. At the North the middle of May is late enough to commence to set out the dormant bulbs, and a few should be put in every week or ten days until the last of June. When the bulbs have been started in the house or frame they can be turned out after the



PEARL TUBEROSE.

weather has become warm and settled. Bulbs started late in pots, and intended for late fall and early winter blooming, can be kept in the pots and the latter sunk over their rims in the open border. By carefully attending to the watering of these plunged plants they will make a good growth during summer, and, when the cooler weather comes, they can be lifted and brought into the house, or placed in a frame for a time, and then be given a sunny window, where they will open their flowers at a time when, more than ever, they will be appreciated.

Potato Bugs and Blight.

In a late number of the *Garden and Forest* Mr. A. W. Pearson, the well known horticulturist and fruit grower, gives a remarkable example of the difference between vigorous and weak plants to repel the attacks of insects and fungi. This fact, though already well known, is here strongly exemplified, and the lesson should be noted by all cultivators. The vigorous well grown crop is the profitable one. Good cultivation pays. Here is Mr. Pearson's statement: "I planted some potatoes on poor soil, where they made but feeble growth. Near this was one planted with similar potatoes, fully fertilized, and stimulated by nitrogenous manures. The weak plants on the poor soil were attacked by the beetle and devoured before the strong plants were touched. This is ordinarily explained by saying that the fertilized plant grows faster than the bug can eat it; but, in fact, the beetles did not visit these plants. When they

had consumed the plat of weaker plants they sought the fields of similarly starved potatoes and ate them in preference.

These two potato plats also showed a remarkable contrast in resistance to the potato blight, which, when it became epidemic, attacked the weaker ones first and totally killed them. The stronger plants were blighted later, but the leaves only were harmed. The stalks were unaffected, and, after the foliage perished under the fungus, they put forth a new growth, which endured until frost, maturing a crop of tubers."

The only weak point in this statement, as it appears to us, is the destruction of the same plat by both potato bug and fungus. According to our observation potato plants which have once been consumed by bugs, and to that extent that the bugs had deserted them, never again put out leaves; but this must have occurred with Mr. Pearson's plat in order to have been destroyed afterwards by the blight.

Some Experiences.

"Did you succeed in some particular during the past year? Write and tell us about it." (VICK'S MAGAZINE, Dec. 1891.)

Yes, a wonderful success with pansies. In the summer of 1890 my pansies, for various reasons, were nearly a failure, and in the fall I had but a half dozen or so small plants, and fearing they would winter-kill where they were, I procured a box about a foot wide and a foot deep and eighteen inches long and filled it two-thirds full of rich soil and then mixed in a quantity of stable manure and set in the plants and placed the box close to the south side of the house and on the approach of cold weather covered the box with a bit of plank. As the weather began to grow warm in spring I uncovered the box during the day and covered it again at night when cold. About the 20th of April the pansies began to blossom, and from that day for about fifty days we picked from five to ten pansies a day on an average, besides the myriads that faded on the plants. The box was always full of blossoms, some Tramardeau's, some beautiful blue ones, and the size and brilliancy of the blossoms were the wonder and admiration of every one who saw them. For "Children's Day" I picked 40 blossoms and those were not all of them. After that time the blossoms grew poor and weak and I cut the plants back and moved the box to the north side of the house where they gave me an abundance of beautiful pansies for bouquets all summer.

Boiling hot water poured carefully from the spout of a tea kettle or through a small funnel, into each individual ant hill will "fix" the ants and will not hurt the grass—certainly not much and if at all it will soon recover.

I think you make a mistake in recommending the planting of sweet peas so closely. My experience is quite the reverse. My sweet peas last summer, planted not nearly so thick as you advise, grew more than six feet high and broke down all support, lying at length upon the ground. Then strong stakes had to be set in the ground, a board nailed across and the peas raised and fastened to it; but oh, the blossoms! Myriads of them till killed by frost.

New Haven, Mich.

MRS. C. H. S.

Napoleon's handwriting was so decidedly illegible that it was said of his letters, written to Josephine, during the German campaign, that they resembled nothing so much as war maps.

Cherry Blossoms.

What fragrance fills the warm spring air?
A cloud of white, suspended there;
A mass of bloom, so sweet and fair,
The cherry tree.

The wind goes whispering aloft,
The blossoms fall around so soft,
The snowy veil will soon be dropped
From cherry tree.

Thus may we spend our lives below,
Scattering blossoms as we go;
The end, such sweet fruition know,
O, cherry tree. —James H. Bancroft.

The Seventeen-Year Locust.

Those who have never seen the seventeen-year locust, or *Cicada septendecim*, can form but little idea of the annoyance that a visitation of the insects causes the inhabitants of the locality. I shall never forget the spring of the year 1888, when they visited Northern Illinois. It had been reported in advance that they would make their appearance that year, for the cycle of their visitations is well known. As soon as the weather began to be warm, in May, strange noises were heard in all directions, and the furrows made by the farmer's plow were filled with uncountable numbers of small holes, which, when examined, were found to be made by larvae, or grubs, which having come out were crawling on fences, trunks of trees and any objects whatever to which they could attach their claws. The moist grub having come from the

Plants by Mail.

When you have carefully selected and ordered the plants you buy of some florist remote from your own location there are some things needful to be done. If old pots are to be used they should be thoroughly washed, outside and in, with a brush. This will open the pores in the pottery and make them better receptacles for the plants. It is also well to get the soil ready, so that when the plants arrive they may not be subjected to a delay too long. If there are not many plants probably you will have time to make other necessary preparations after the plants arrive. Some do not believe in heating the soil, but if it is made thoroughly hot it will destroy all insect life and foul seeds. It is not so much matter about the bad seeds in the soil when setting plants as it is in preparing proper seed boxes. But if one is not familiar with the appearance of the seedlings the weedlings may be taken for them, besides, they will grow and take from the soil the strength needed by the seedlings.

When plants arrive they are better left packed until you can attend to them, as they will keep fresher if kept from the air. If they come at night they may be opened, the moss around dampened and the foliage lightly sprinkled. Fill the pot partially with the soil, then spread out the roots of the plant upon it, holding the plants in the left hand, and with the right sift the soil about the roots and gradually fill the pot to the top. Press the earth firmly about the newly set plant. Give it a watering and set it in the light, but not in the sunshine, until it has recovered from the change. The plants I receive from regular florists are usually in good condition when I get them, but they are not large. Do not expect specimen plants to be sent. Do not be disappointed if it takes the plants some time to become as thrifty and floriferous as they are pictured in the catalogues. The change from the moist, warm atmosphere of a greenhouse, the long journey in a box, the repotting into a different soil, even by experienced hands, is a great tax

upon the vitality of plants. I have saved tender plants by placing a tumbler or glass jar over them after potting; this insures a moist atmosphere, and is a great aid in some instances. No one should expect to succeed with greenhouse plants unless he will study and learn the needs of the different kinds. Some need plenty of moisture, others require a dry soil; some want fertilizing and others are light feeders; some want sunshine, some shadow, etc., etc.

Always, after receiving a new lot of plants, it is best to isolate them for a while until you are sure there are no insect pests upon them. Treat all plants as intelligently as possible, and then, even if they do die, don't blame the florist. I don't believe the florist is to blame, even if the plants die which they send out. In every case mine come through in good condition. If I, through lack of knowledge or care, lose them, I know where the fault lies, and try to find out why I failed. I shall then know how to do better next time.

Ipswich, S. D.

ROSE SEELYE MILLER.

Common Names of Flowers.

This topic, pertaining to the common names of flowers, suggests to me much pleasing reminiscence. Those interested in plants who can recall thirty years or more in this region have the experience of seeing an unknown wildness of flowers christened. Pioneers naturally bestowed names already familiar, and thus it happened that several plants frequently received the same name, as different individuals fancied resemblance between the new and the old.

The maiden who kept district school could, as she passed from one neighborhood to another, wear "pinks" of every hue, culled from a dozen different orders. The names rose and lily were also liberally used with various distinguishing adjuncts. After these there were multitudes nameless, and all had liberty. Many of these local names were of more significance than the ones generally accepted. Moccasin flower is certainly much more applicable to the inflated form of the cypripedium than lady's slipper. Our shooting star is recognized for dodecatheon meadia, and our Indian paint-brush would be more real than Painted cup for castilleja. A "rose by any other name" would lose much of its endearing association, so would pansy and lily of the valley, but, really, I think the use of a name which "makes all the world akin" much more desirable.

When I suggest, to the astonishment of my "help," whose knowledge of English does not include the name of fruit currants, that perhaps she called them "ribes," I am happily understood. When the good German who occasionally comes into my flower garden, delightedly meeting "my choicest" as old friends, says "reseda?" it is a pleasure to be able to show him my mignonette. Many scientific names are more harmonious to the ear than our own harsher English. In fact, there are but few botanical names which could not be learned as easily as verbenas or geraniums, or gladioli. Think of pickle-plant for the graceful othonna; of liverwort when we have hepatica; or Dutchman's breeches for the delicate dicentra. I am glad, in these instances, to see custom following the lead of science, and were we once accustomed to them we should find others equally pleasing.

Durand, Wis.

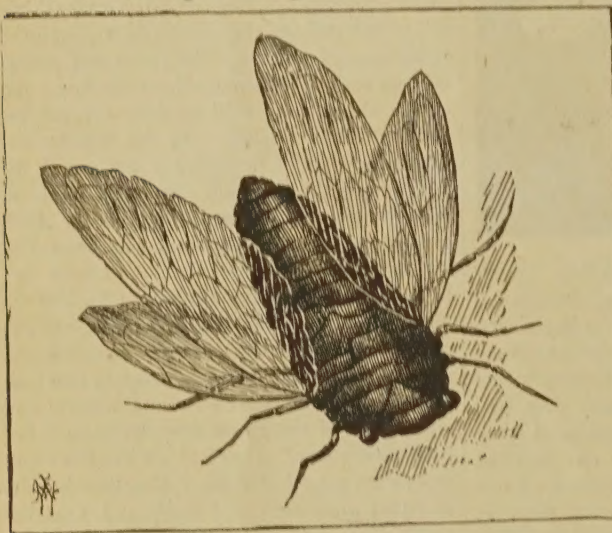
F. F. L. D.

To Exterminate Ants.

In your issue of January a correspondent asks for a remedy for ants in lawns. The following, taken from Bulletin No. 14 of the Mississippi Agricultural Station, will do the business, as I know from experience: "Bisulphide of Carbon. This is a volatile liquid, the fumes of which are very destructive to animal life. It is an explosive substance, and for this reason should be used with care. If kept away from fire, however, it can be used with comparative safety. It is used to destroy ants with much success. A hole is made in the hill by means of a round stick or crowbar and a small quantity of the bisulphide is poured into it. The hole is then filled by pressing the earth around it, and as the fumes of the bisulphide penetrates the hill the ants will be effectually destroyed. It is also very effectually used in destroying grain weevils. If it is put into the center of the bin by means of a tube the fumes will soon destroy all grain insects or weevils which may be within the bin."

A. C. GONGWER.

Lansing, Mich.



THE SEVENTEEN-YEAR LOCUST.

ground would wait a little time to dry and then the covering would split open on the back and the locust, or perfect insect, crawl forth; the insect, too, would rest a little for wings to expand and dry, and then fly away, leaving a shell standing with claws fastened to whatever it was on, and appearing the same as when inhabited.

In two or three weeks time the trees and shrubs were almost covered with the insects, and those flying in the air were so numerous that it was very unpleasant for a person to be out of doors. The most annoying and peculiar feature about them is a shrill mournful noise which they keep up from morning until night, this being made by the males with an apparatus at the upper part of the abdomen. The female insects puncture the small twigs of trees to deposit their eggs and these hatch into grubs which fall to the ground, where they burrow and there remain for another period of seventeen years. This insect has no great resemblance to the true locust, or grasshopper, and does but little damage.

Woodstock, Ill.

CHAS. CHURCHILL.

Vegetables or Berries, Which?

This was the question to be decided by two neighbors who had gardens of the same size, and were planning to have them cultivated in the spring. One decided in favor of berries, and planted the entire space in strawberries, thinking he would thus make the little garden profitable without the constant work necessary for a variety of vegetables. The other friend decided to try vegetables. Even if they were more work they would give quicker returns for the time and money expended, and the work would be only pleasant exercise during the beautiful spring days. So the little 20x60 garden was planted with a variety of vegetables, the owner planting intelligently, with a view of getting the greatest amount possible from the small space. As the next door neighbor noticed the radishes, lettuce, early beets, etc., which were quickly grown and gathered, to make room for the later crops, and was often surprised with a pan of beans, tomatoes, etc., which were passed over the fence during the summer, with the remark—"won't you please accept these? we have more than we can possibly use," she would often glance with regret at that strawberry bed occupying the whole of her little garden. It was soon decided that, after one good crop of berries, at least half of the space should be devoted to vegetables.

These beds of berries, etc., are very well for a large garden, but if you have only a small space to spare from the lawn and flower beds, and are not afraid of a little outdoor work during the delightful spring days, decide in favor of vegetables by all means.

Philadelphia.

PHEBE R.

Sweet Corn.

When Columbus discovered America the aborigines were cultivating Indian corn. Their time of planting was when the leaves of the white oak were of the "size of a squirrel's ear." About the year 1520 Columbus took some Indian corn with him to Spain, and its use became, from that time, known in Europe. Sweet corn is the most tender and delicate variety of Indian corn, and is sub-divided into many named varieties of early, medium and late. For a first crop plant very early in April the dwarf growing variety Early Minnesota, and about the third week in the same month make a second planting of this very early corn, and at the same time plant the large variety Crosby's Twelve-Rowed. For a late variety plant Stowell's Evergreen at intervals of two weeks until about August.

I am a firm believer in the truth of the following poetry:

We may live without friends,
We may live without books,
But civilized men
Cannot live without cooks.

Therefore I here present a few recipes for preparing corn:

Fried Corn.—Free the corn from husk and silk. Let it be so tender the skin will break at the slightest puncture. Make a cut through each row, then, with back of knife, scrape off the corn, and you have the kernel without the husk. Heat a skillet very hot; put in a tablespoonful of butter and then the corn. Sprinkle over it a little pepper and salt. Heat thoroughly but do not let it harden, and serve at once. A delicious breakfast dish.

Succotash.—Boil string beans from half to three-quarters of an hour in water a little salt, meantime cutting off the corn and throwing the cobs to boil with the beans. Let the proportions be two-thirds corn and one-third beans. When the beans have boiled the time mentioned take out the cobs and add the corn; let the whole boil from fifteen to twenty minutes for young corn, or longer for older corn. To one quart of corn and one pint of beans take one tablespoonful of flour wet it to a thin paste and stir it into the succotash. Let it boil for five

minutes and then turn it into a dish in which some butter has been placed.

Green Corn Pudding.—Twelve ears of sweet corn, grated; one pint and a half of milk; four well beaten eggs; one teacupful and a half of sugar. Mix the above and bake it three hours in a buttered dish.

It is a difficult matter for us to can corn so that it will keep, but when canned with tomatoes, in the proportion of one-third corn to two-thirds tomatoes, when winter comes we find it reliable in appearance and flavor. We also dry it in the sun, and prepare it by soaking over night and boiling half an hour, seasoning with salt, butter and cream. L. G. PATTERSON.

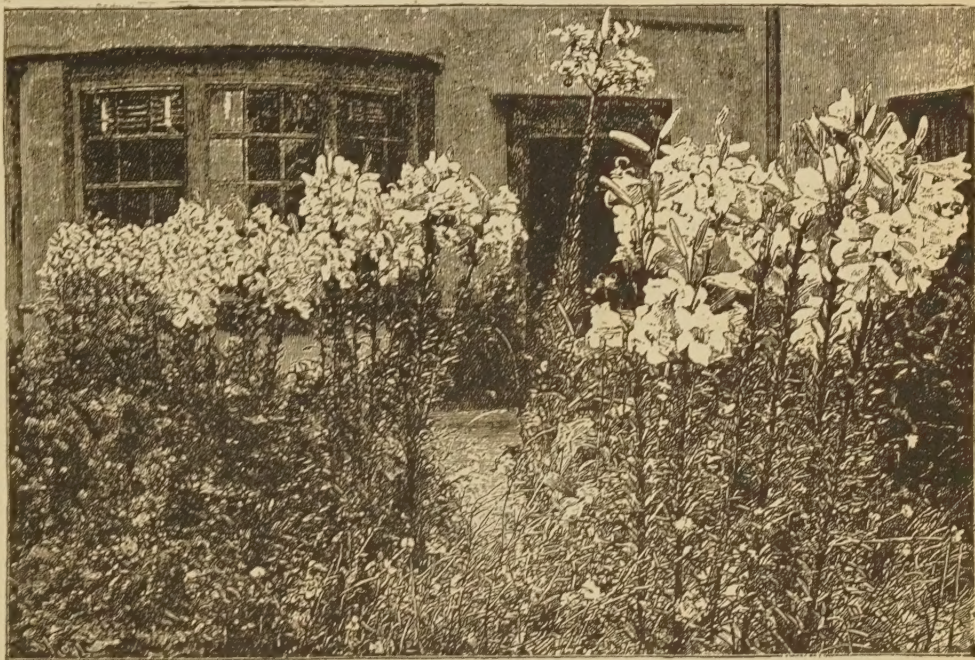
Lilies.

These are plants which all admire, some succeed with them and some fail. Undoubtedly our dry summers and autumns are unfavorable to them, and probably a greater measure of success could be attained if the ground over the roots were carefully mulched through the summer and early autumn. Nothing would be better for this purpose than dry bracken, and wherever coarse ferns are growing abundantly they could be used for the purpose. Another good material would be old pine needles, and their brown shade would agree with the soil color. But in the absence of any suitable vegetable material, like that mentioned, we may lay two or three inches of loose soil over the roots and this will serve the purpose of keeping the bulbs and roots cool nearly as well. In moving bulbs, or purchasing them, it is a great mistake to set them in the spring. The bulbs of *L. auratum*, to be sure, cannot be procured

transplant well all through the autumn, but the first two mentioned should have attention in September. A very successful lily grower in England, the Rev. J. L. Stackhouse, of Berkely, over the signature of "A Gloucestershire Parson," narrated some of his experience with lilies in *The Garden*, accompanied by an illustration, here reproduced, made from a photograph. He has the following to say of *L. candidum*:

The almost universal rule with regard to the whole tribe, that they do better after being left undisturbed for some years, does not hold good with *L. candidum*, the Madonna lily. I am convinced that lily is the better for being taken up and replanted every three years, if not more frequently. It is well known that *L. candidum* has the habit of pushing its bulbs out of the ground, so that at the present time the bulbous roots of white lilies which may have flowered well are clearly visible over the surface of the earth. The consequence is that if we get a dry September, the bulbs become weakened for want of moisture and through exposure to the atmosphere. This is just what these lilies cannot bear, so that when taken up it is necessary to replant them as speedily as possible. When *L. candidum* has been left two years without disturbance, I believe it will grow to greater height and luxuriance the third year if it is carefully taken up and replanted at once in fresh soil.

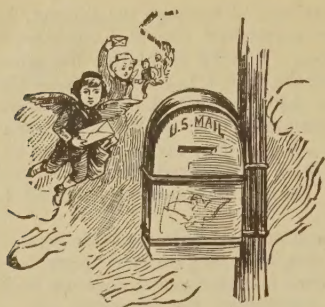
The accompanying engraving shows a bed of the Madonna lily in its second year. Some of the bulbs were obtained from neighboring cottagers, and some were received from Haarlem. They all flowered splendidly this season, and have not shown the slightest symptoms of dis-



LILIES IN A GLOUCESTERSHIRE GARDEN.

at any other time, but other varieties which are raised in the country can be had in autumn, and that is the proper time to reset them; in that case the bulbs make roots in the fall and are ready to start into vigorous growth early in spring. *Lilium candidum*, the common white lily, is one of the most admired varieties as a cut flower and one of the most effective in the garden. Now, it happens that much complaint is made about getting this variety to succeed, and the one troublesome cause above all others is because it is moved in the spring, which never should be done. The plant may survive the removal but it is a terrible check to it. During July and August *L. candidum* is in a resting state, but with the cooler weather of September it pushes its new roots and makes a strong underground growth during the fall. The same is true of *L. Japonicum longiflorum*; the other species are somewhat more tardy and

ease. Indeed, I have not come across the lily diseased in any shape or form, and therefore I cannot speak of it from experience, but I attribute the freedom from disease very much to the fresh soil in which my lilies are grown. They are not allowed to wear out the soil, nor are they allowed to push themselves out of the ground, for the replanting every two years or so prevents both. It is a difficult question to answer why this lily should pertinaciously thrust its bulbs out of the warmth and nourishment of its mother earth when that warmth and nourishment are so needful to its welfare. Artificial cultivation is often better for a plant than its own willful natural mode of growth, and this seems to be an instance of it. On the whole, the system of cultivation which seems to me to be most conducive to the health of the Madonna Lily is to give it fresh loam without any manure and to replant it every third or fourth year.



OUR LETTER BOX.

In this department we will be pleased to answer any questions, relating to Flowers, Vegetables, and Plants, or to hear of the experiences of our readers.
JAMES VICK.

Moles in Gardens.

JAMES VICK:—Will you please tell us how to get rid of moles which are ruining our beds and lawns, and oblige
AN OLD CUSTOMER.

Kansas City, Mo.

The only effectual way of getting rid of moles is by mole traps which will kill them.

Watermelons.

JAMES VICK:—Will you please tell how to prepare the soil, when and how to plant the seeds, and how to care for the vines of the watermelon. C. C. C.
Cresco, Iowa.

Plant and care for them in the same way as recommended for early cucumbers in the *Guide*, page 61.

Freesia Bulbs.

JAMES VICK:—Will you tell me what to do with freesia bulbs that are done blooming?
Mrs. E. C. S.

Fairton, N. J.

Keep them in the house and give them water as needed until weather becomes settled; then plunge the pots below their rims in the garden and leave them there until about the first of September, when they can be taken up and the bulbs repotted.

Chinese Hibiscus.

JAMES VICK:—Will you give instruction to slipping and rooting hibiscus and the cause of buds dropping off when nearly ready to bloom. E. S. H.
Morrice, Mich.

The most usual cause of this plant dropping its buds is defective drainage. Turn the plant out of its pot and see if the drainage provided is such that the water can pass off quickly, if not, repair it. The plant is propagated by cuttings which root readily in a medium temperature with bottom heat.

Lily of the Valley.

JAMES VICK:—My lilies of the valley I received of you have bloomed very nicely. I am well pleased with them. Will you tell me what to do with them after they are through blooming? Shall I still water them and keep them in the sun, or what shall I do with them? And can I set them out in the summer?
Mrs. L. J. L.

Cullom, Ill.

Continue to water and care for the plants and when the weather is suitable transplant them in the garden. The pips after blooming in the house are of no more value for that purpose but will make garden plants.

Primula obconica.

JAMES VICK:—May I cut the dead leaves and dead stalks from *Primula obconica*? Can I divide the plant when in bloom or at any time? How can I get rid of black spiders?
C. J.

North Sanford, N. Y.

It is proper always to take away dead leaves and stems, not only from this but from any other plant. The plant can be divided at almost any time; when the season of bloom is nearly or quite past is the best time. Black spiders can be brushed away, and a little care in keeping a place clean will prevent their increase.

Trapping Cut Worms.

JAMES VICK:—I wish you would try my method of catching the cut worm. I have tried it the past two years and found it a perfect success. As soon as the ground is plowed in the early spring before planting, I lay down the common mullein plant about 20 feet apart on the furrows, and it is so attractive that the worms will gather under the plant in great numbers. The best time to gather them is early in the morning. It takes but a few pickings to rid a field of the pests. I trapped as many as 80,000 in the summer of 1891. On Monday, May 5th, 1891, I shipped 15 lbs. to the Michigan State Agricultural College at Lansing, Mich., and on Wednesday, May 27th, 1891, I shipped 15 lbs. to the *Detroit Free Press*.
J. H.
Argentine, Mich.

Climbing Vine for a Tree.

JAMES VICK:—We have a very fine lawn in front of our house sloping a little to the north. A cherry tree that has been destroyed and deadened by storm stands on the west side of the house. I would like to know what kind of a vine would be the best climber so as to make a pretty screen.

Aberdeen.

THOMAS MARTIN.

Understanding that this is an inquiry for a climber to run on the dead cherry tree, it is advised to take the Virginia creeper. It will make a greater and quicker growth than any other hardy climber, and at the same time may be trained so closely that its abundant foliage will make an effective screen.

Lily of the Valley.

JAMES VICK:—Will you explain how to raise Lily of the Valley? I have a bed full of the pips but they do not bloom.
MRS. D. G. C.

Prairie City, Iowa.

Old beds of this plant become so filled with roots that the young pips do not become strong enough to bloom. Select a piece of rich ground inclined to be a little moist and furnished with a light shade; dig it up and plant it with the single pips taken up from the old bed and separated. Set the plants about six inches apart, and when the planting is finished give the bed a dressing of old well rotted manure. If there should be drought water artificially; keep clear of weeds and get as strong a growth as possible and bloom will follow.

Green Fly on Roses.

JAMES VICK:—What will kill the small green insects on rose bushes?
G. J. W.

Charlemont, Mass.

This is the green aphid which infests a great variety of cultivated plants. They can be destroyed and kept under by spraying the plants occasionally, as it may seem necessary, with a strong solution of whale-oil soap; or the liquid may be applied by sprinkling it on with a small whisk broom, being careful to have it wet the under as well as the upper sides of the leaves. Sulpho-tobacco soap is an excellent article for the same purpose. In greenhouses and conservatories these insects are commonly destroyed by fumigating with tobacco. Another method of using tobacco is to steep it in the greenhouse.

Various Flowering Plants.

JAMES VICK:—I would like to know if anyone can tell me whether *Primula obconica* is worth keeping after it is a year old. Mine does not bloom as it did last year under the same treatment.

Is there anything better for a border along a walk that is on the incline or side of a hill, where it is dry most of the time, than *Phlox Drummondii*?

Anyone who wants a nice, clean, healthy plant for the sitting room window I think will be pleased with *Olea fragrans*. The bloom must be looked for somewhat closely, but the sweetest of perfumes will reveal its presence. I think the fragrance is like that of the wild crab apple.
V. P.

Phlox Drummondii may do well in the place mentioned, but portulaca will stand more drouth and heat.

The *Primula obconica* ought to be better the

second year than the first. In May or June reduce the ball of earth and repot in a smaller pot with fresh, rich soil. In September repot again in a size or two larger; in this way the vigor of the plant can be maintained.

Potting and Watering Plants.

JAMES VICK:—What is meant by the expression "sharp sand" so often used in directions for potting plants?

Where plants are grown in ordinary plant-jars, which is the better way to water, to put the water on the top of the soil or in the saucer of the jar?

Granville, N. Y.

A. A. C.

A sharp sand is one which is gritty to the touch, and as such will not pack closely, and so will keep the soil porous.

As a rule it is best to water by pouring the water on the surface so that it will pass through the whole body of soil. Some plants, such as the calla or African lily, which require water constantly while making growth and blooming, can best be served by placing the water in the saucer, renewing it frequently to keep up a continuous supply. Fine seeds sown in a pot can be supplied with water from beneath by setting the pot in a vessel of water of nearly the depth of the soil; the soil will become saturated without the surface being disturbed, which would probably destroy or injure the fine germinating seeds. When the soil is saturated and the pot removed any excess of water will drain away. The important general rule to observe when watering growing plants is to give enough to fully saturate the soil—not to supply it in dribbles.

Labeling Gladiolus.

JAMES VICK:—For three or four years past I have been greatly interested in the culture of gladioli, which for exquisite beauty, great variety of tint, color and markings, together with the ease with which they are grown, render them, in my opinion, the most satisfactory of all our summer flowering bulbs. I have a collection of about 300 bulbs which include a large share of the choicest named varieties and it is needless to say that I value them highly. To keep with it, in planting, the name of each variety so that, when it blossoms, you can compare it with the description given in the catalogues, thus giving it a distinct individuality, in my opinion more than doubles its interest and value; but I find as I add many new varieties to my collection each season that to keep the name of each bulb so that it can be easily referred to is no small task. Will you, therefore, for the benefit of many of your readers who, I dare say, have had a similar experience, give the simplest and most systematic method for keeping with it the name of each variety both while in the ground during the summer and while being stored the balance of the year.
EDGAR A. HIGGINS.

Cohocton, N. Y.

We know of no better way to label gladiolus varieties while in the ground than by a stake with the name marked on it driven down in front of each variety; and when the corms are laid away in the fall they can be placed each variety in a box by itself appropriately labeled.

Amaryllis not Blooming.

JAMES VICK:—Can you tell me what I can do for my *Amaryllis Johnsoni* to make it blossom? It is ten years old, and for the past four years has not blossomed. I have two large, healthy looking bulbs in a pot eight inches across. One bulb is about eleven years old. When three years old it blossomed in the month of March or April, and did the same for three successive years; the fourth year it bloomed in the spring and again in the autumn, since then there has been no sign of a blossom. The other bulb is six or seven years old and has never put forth a bud. They are in common garden soil, and through the winter have the same care as my geraniums; stand in our living room and have just water enough to keep the earth moist. Through the summer they have been either turned down, or have stood out doors with no water except the rains. In September I repot them

and give water again. The bulbs look bright and healthy and the pot is usually full of roots. New leaves come out every year after repotting.

Cherry Creek, N. Y.

Mrs. G. F. L.

The trouble with these bulbs is that they are kept in too active a state by their yearly repotting. This work is unnecessary. Some new surface soil given annually, with other proper treatment, will be quite enough soil renewal for several years at least. In spring, water the plants abundantly and give liquid manure to induce as strong a growth as possible. As the heat of summer comes on gradually dry the plants off and let them remain in a state of rest until some time in December or early in January. Then place the plants in heat and give water, increasing it as fast as the plants can appropriate it. Give it more heat than geraniums require in winter. By adopting this course we think the flowers will appear.

Skeleton Lily, Spider Lily, Dahlias.

JAMES VICK:—What is the plant called the Skeleton Lily, and where can it be had? Is it not what some call Spider Lily? Also please give a paper on dahlias. The tubers are advertised to winter as nicely as potatoes. I would hate to eat potatoes that keep like mine. All the way that I can keep the choice ones is to pot grow them, and even then I sometimes fail to winter them. They grow and bloom profusely. Sometimes in one week after they are dug the tubers look like two skins. I have tried putting them in bags and in dried sand and ashes, in short everything that I could think or hear of. The common ones winter easily. One lady told me she just threw hers into the cellar and they kept nicely. My garden is on a hill and well protected, so late frosts find it in full bloom. I have sometimes thought that and too rich soil was the trouble. Last fall, October 7th, we had a regular freeze; some of my plants had over fifty full blooms and hundreds of buds. They began to bloom in June. I pick the blooms as soon, or before, fully blown. I get so many blooms that I will not complain if I have to buy new ones often. Last fall some of mine that I bought of you last spring bloomed nicely, but they had no tubers worth anything, Mrs. Tait and Goldlight in particular; and some had monstrous roots. I do not think the trouble all with me for I have bought them and there would not be an eye. I have a tuber of Goldlight that I bought of you last spring that has been in damp dirt ever since that time; it is sound yet, but has no sign of life, and other people say the same about the nice ones. I think more people would buy them if they knew the secret of wintering them. But I mean to have a few as long as I can care for them.

Mexico, N. Y.

Mrs. C. G.

Skeleton lily we believe to be a name applied to the *pancratium*. Spider lily is another name for the same plant. *Pancratium rotatum* has been so called, and lately *P. Caribbeum* has been advertised under the name of Spider lily. Spider flower and Spiderwort are common names for *Tradescantia Virginica*. The remarks of our correspondent about the difficulty of keeping the tubers of the finer varieties of dahlias, especially the tricolored and striped and splashed varieties, are quite true. They are the highest achievements of the gardener in that family of plants and have been brought to their present condition by almost endless care. Constitutional vigor has been disregarded and in many varieties sacrificed to beauty of form and color in the flower. The plant is maintained in its artificial condition by the gardener's watchfulness, and if it should be left to itself it would either die outright or quickly lose its artificial features and revert to its original state. The finer varieties of dahlia can never become plentiful and will always be held in trust by careful florists and gardeners, who will continue their existence by raising them in small pots in view of their blooming the following season.

Celery.

JAMES VICK:—Will you give full information in regard to growing celery for family use? Especially as regards blanching. Have already received seeds from you of Golden Heart and Golden Self Blanching. Mondamin, Iowa.

NOVICH.

The most approved method of raising dwarf celery now is by planting close, and on the surface of the ground, not in trenches as with the tall varieties. The method of an experienced grower, M. Wetterling, of Ionia, Michigan, was published in this MAGAZINE last year and we here reproduce the essential portion of it:

I prepare my ground thoroughly the previous fall, using well decomposed barnyard manure at the rate of fifty tons to the acre. If short, stocky celery is wanted, cow manure is used, if tall celery is wanted, I use horse manure.

The ground for my seed-bed I also prepare in the fall, by turning it up in high ridges four feet apart. On the first approach of spring these ridges are leveled down and rows made crosswise, eight inches apart, and the seed planted. I press the soil down with my feet and afterward level it down with the back of the rake. As soon as the tiny little plants begin to show themselves, I stir the soil between the rows with the Excelsior weeding hook, destroying

year were lovely but the stalks were so brittle that they could not be trained without breaking.

Albion, Neb.

E. M. D.

The verbenas are a plant so easily raised from seed that it is not worth the trouble to carry the plants over the winter, especially as they are of very little use the following season. To have strong plants which will bloom profusely sow the seeds in the house from February to April. Pansy plants that have been sheltered should be uncovered as soon as the heavy frosts are past. When seedling plants have made a few leaves they should be transplanted to stand at proper distances for blooming. If this was done last fall, in the case of our inquirer, they should not be moved again this spring.

Dahlias can be placed early in a warm corner of the garden with a little soil thrown over them, where they can be exposed on warm, bright days, and watered as needed, and be covered with a box, or matting or piece of carpet at night. Here they will push their eyes and be preparing for more active growth later. When there is no longer danger of frost plant them out where they are to stand, and drive

down a strong but neat stake beside them to which they can be tied for support when it is needed.

White Worms in Plant Pots.

JAMES VICK:—I would like to tell you a little of my experience and ask a few questions. In the early part of the winter I noticed a number of small bluish winged flies about my window garden. I did not know how to get rid of them as I couldn't smoke the whole house, and finally concluded they were doing no harm probably, but pretty soon the plants of ranunculus began to die, and then the hyacinths; on digging down I found the roots of the ranunculus were a mass of very small white worms and a vast number of these on the hyacinths. I tried the matches, but they did no good, and then I made a strong tobacco tea and watered the soil with it; the ranunculus plants were too far gone but the hyacinths recovered and are blooming. Now, was the fly the parent? If so, what could I have used? Is there anything better to destroy the worms than the tobacco tea? I applied a little to all the plants thinking others might be affected; the fuchsia died. Was it the tea that caused it? I found no worms on it after it died.

Ottawa.

C. H. MCP.

Undoubtedly the fly is the perfect form of the white worm; all who complain of these little worms in the soil of their pot plants mention the flies in connection with them. As a precaution many careful cultivators heat all the soil they use for potting purposes. A temperature

of 150°, which is easily obtained in a stove oven, will probably destroy all animal life in egg or worm form, and if this is done there is not much danger of a visitation of the flies.

Some who have used tobacco tea have reported that it had no effect on the worms. In the case of our correspondent it appears to have destroyed them. In regard to the match remedy there are conflicting statements. Some have lost their plants by using them; others report success by the same means. The cause of the different results has been explained by the fact that the matches were tipped with different substances; the common sulphur and phosphorus matches being said to be injurious, while the so-called parlor matches are harmless to the plants but effective in destroying the worms. We have no knowledge of the truth of the statements. Those of our readers who may have succeeded in destroying the worms by the use of matches—should say what kind of matches they have used for the purpose, and those who have lost their plants should make similar statements. Eventually the fact will be disclosed. Whether lime water will destroy this particular worm we do not know.



GOLDEN SELF BLANCHING CELERY.

what weed seeds may have germinated. As soon as the plants are well above ground, I thin them out carefully so that they may not crowd each other. Thus I secure strong, stocky plants with an abundance of fibrous roots. This is the great secret of success in celery growing.

Unlike other celery growers, I set my plants in rows only one foot and a half apart, and the plants six inches apart in the rows. I keep them growing by frequent stirring of the soil around the plants and between the rows, not hilling up. Instead of spreading out the plants grow naturally straight, and the bleaching process goes on with the growth.

Toward the middle or latter end of October, I dig pits one foot and a half wide and deep enough so that when the celery is placed upright in these, with their roots on, the tops will be level with the ground. The celery must not be dug in wet or damp weather, as this will make it decay in a short time.

On approach of cold weather I cover it up with boards and straw. Thus I have access to it anytime during winter, no matter how cold it is.

Plant Queries.

JAMES VICK:—I have a white verbenas that for a long time has barely lived and that is all, this spring I would like to put it out of doors in a small tub; what time would be best to transplant it and what soil shall I use? Last fall I sowed pansy seeds and when frost came had nice, thrifty plants; what time ought they be uncovered and should they be transplanted? How early should dahlia bulbs be set in the ground, and how should the plants be trained to keep the flowers from the ground? My dahlias last

VICK'S MAGAZINE.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., MAY, 1892.

Entered in the Post Office at Rochester as "second-class" matter.

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Advertising rates are \$1.25 per agate line per month; \$1.18 for 3 months, or 200 lines; \$1.12 for 6 months, or 400 lines; \$1.06 for 9 months, or 600 lines; \$1.00 for 1 year, or 1000 lines. One line extra charge for less than five.

All contracts based on a "guaranteed and proved circulation" of an average through the year of 200,000.

The actual edition for this month (May) is over **200,000.**

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Did you tell your neighbor how you appreciate VICK's? They might enjoy it the same as you do. Let VICK's light shine and its rays will give pleasure in every home.

The Canfield Rubber Co., in another column, make an offer to the lady readers of this MAGAZINE which should be taken advantage of at once. They are a very reliable firm.

Letters coming from every section of the country contain these or similar words: "VICK's ILLUSTRATED MONTHLY MAGAZINE is improving every month." This is our aim.

On page 102 a correspondent from Michigan tells about sending fifteen pounds of cut worms to the Michigan State Agricultural College and also to the *Detroit Free Press*. Did he have a grudge against them?

Our June number will be emphatically a "rose number," and our readers will find in it how much the poets have raved over this glorious flower. A beautiful suggestive story also on the influence of one white rose, will be the opening article. It will be sent *only* to those who are regular subscribers. *Are you one?*

It gives us great pleasure to state that upon our complaint Postmaster General Wanamaker has issued an order, denouncing as "frauds" the publishers of *The Farm and Household*, New York, whose advertisement was inadvertently inserted in our January number. Our complaint was backed up by a large number of letters from our subscribers, who had been deceived by the concern.

Special Notice.

Henceforth no Rebus or Free Crayon advertisements will be published in VICK's MAGAZINE. We have taken this step after mature deliberation on account of the impossibility to draw the line to our own satisfaction between those who carry out their promises and those who do not. Therefore without the slightest reflection on those whom we have dropped, we must say adieu. The amounts these advertisers are willing to spend runs sometimes into contracts of over \$1,000 each per annum, so that pecuniarily we are the losers, but we intend to protect our readers so far as possible.

If each regular subscriber here get one neighbor to subscribe, or each party who receives a sample copy of this issue will subscribe, they will help make up for the loss and at the same time get good value for the slight outlay.

Written and
culled for Vick's
Magazine.BRIGHT
IDEAS.

Look up, then reach up and grasp the best.

Do you realize the great uplifting power of music?

It is possible to have snap without being snappy.

Honesty is better capital than a sharper's cunning.

A true man never frets about his place in the world.

Put not your trust in money, but put your money in trust.

'Tis said that bees never store up honey where it is light.

Do you think more of your character than of fine clothes?

Success on earth may mean the worst kind of failure in heaven.

Leave your business unduly and your business will leave you.

A good many heroes never have their names printed in the papers.

Did you ever find corn on the ear with an uneven number of rows?

Do not forget it! Small profits little risk; large profits great risk.

Did you ever notice what a little thing will sometimes make a child happy?

Why is it that leaves will attract dew when boards, sticks and stones will not?

A boy discovered that a squirrel comes down a tree head first and a cat tail first.

What is necessary to change a house into a home? If you know attend to it at once.

An average walking record of from six to ten miles daily is kept up by Mr. Gladstone.

The world is all up hill when we would do, All down hill when we suffer.

—Bailey's Festus.

Sensitiveness nursed too much develops into envy or jealousy, factors not easily contended with.

How many people would be willing to write the secret thoughts of one day on a black-board?

Are you always ready to distribute good cheer, sweet thoughts and tender remembrances?

Nothing strikes one more, in the race of life, than to see how many give out in the first half of the course.

There is no use in turning over a new leaf unless you have something sensible to write on the page.—Puck.

If you've any task to do,
Let me whisper, friend, to you,
Do it.

Spurgeon said: "If you have a bitter pill to take gulp it down, don't chew it. So many people chew their pills."

A continuous clam bake will be one of the attractions which epicurean visitors will find at the Chicago Exposition.

There is one good thing that may be said about faults; it is always the man you dislike most who has the most of them.

A little boy was taught to pray for the sufferers by the French war. One night he prayed—"Oh, God, give them bread, *for I tan't.*"

When your faith is put into the crucible, you may know the "Great Refiner" thinks there is good metal in it.—Mother Thompson.

The producer whose experience has taught him how to produce at a relatively low cost is sure to forge his way to the front ranks.

It's a well known fact that the paper and pictures on the walls, the carpets and curtains may affect the mood of a sensitive person.

Do not coax people or plants too much. Do not pet them. Do not carry those who ought to walk. Incessant coddling breeds pigmies.

There is many a man who borrows radiance from his wife with which to shine, and the wives—Heaven bless them!—they keep quiet.

"He is so kind to sick people." That is what a lady said to us about her pastor. She could not have said a better thing about anybody.

If you've any debt to pay,
Rest you neither night or day,
Pay it.

It is said that a factory in Michigan is now making underclothing from a wood fibre which is said to equal in every respect that made from wool.

Jonesey: "Why did you name your youngest daughter Rose?"

Father: "Because she was the flower of the flock."

The highest order of nobility in this country is that which follows the plow, turning up the soil of the earth for the sustenance of 65,000,000 people.

It is very true that a clear, bright light conduces to social, friendly chat at and after tea time. Make your corners at home very attractive.

No man can afford to measure his business on the farm or anywhere else by guesswork. This because the margin of profits is always too small for haphazards.

If you wish success in life, make perseverance your bosom friend, experience your wise counsellor, caution your elder brother, and hope your guardian genius.—Joseph Addison.

"There is no place in the village where a fellow like me can go evenings," said a young man the other day. Hence he went to the saloon. Is that saying true of your town?

Think, when your sun by clouds is hid,
Of this—a fact you'll find it:
There never was a shade that did
Not have a light behind it.

Do we give sufficient thanks for the most common and frequent favors of God—the rising of the sun, the recourse of the seasons, the continuance of life, enjoyment of health, protection from dangers?

In future each soldier of the Belgian army will carry on his person a small bone disk, which will contain his name, birthplace and regimental number, so that the holder can be readily identified in case of accident or death.

Miss Phoebe Couzins has written "Twenty Years in Public Life." The *Phila. Times* suggests that the trouble with the talented authoress is that she is rather too strictly non-committal as to which of the "twenty years" of her life she reproduces in history.

If your daughter has no taste for music, don't insist on her murdering time as well as murdering the circumambient air by drumming on a piano hour after hour. She may have a decided taste for something else just as ennobling as music. If so, let her cultivate it. Don't, for example, spoil a good artist by attempting to make a bad musician.

Cooking by Observation.—Mr. Newwedded. —This coffee is as weak as water again.

Mrs. N.—I can't account for it, my dear. No matter how careful I am, it's always the same way.

Perhaps you don't use enough coffee. Nonsense. I put in a whole half cupful, and everybody says that's plenty.

Did you measure the water? Huh! Who ever heard of measuring water? All cooks pour it right out of the tea-kettle. I've seen 'em, often—so there.—*New York Weekly.*

Briefs.

Oleanders.—Plant out in a deep, well enriched border, this treatment suits them well.

Gesneriads.—Gloxinias and gesneriads should be shifted into larger pots if they require it.

Cactuses.—These will require more attention. As the flower buds swell water should be more liberally given.

Fuchsias.—These should be repotted as often as they require it. Syringe freely and keep them in a state of growth.

Geraniums.—For winter blooming these may yet be propagated. The double varieties are best adapted for this purpose.

Chinese Hibiscus.—Hibiscus rosa sinensis and its varieties can be now readily increased by cuttings of the half ripened wood.

Vines and Climbers.—These require a little attention as to training so that they cover the desired space properly from the start.

Vases, Baskets and Boxes.—All vase and basket plants require water in abundance. Liquid manure should be given at least once a week.

Lawns.—As soon as a little growth of grass has been made lawns should be mowed. Repeat every two weeks or oftener, if necessary, during the season.

Solanums.—Jerusalem cherries should be planted out in a very deep, well enriched border, and later given a good mulch of rather coarse stable manure.

Calceolarias and Cinerarias.—A sowing should be made about the first and another about the middle of the month to insure a succession of bloom for the ensuing season.

Tender Annuals.—Seeds of browallias, balsams, celosia, godetia, morning glory, portulaca, tropaeolum, and other tender annuals, can be sown in the open air as early in the month as possible.

Walks.—If kept in a proper condition walks add much to the beauty of a place. Nothing looks more untidy than to see a walk partially occupied by weeds while its margins are occupied by grass, leaves or bits of paper.

Cyclamens.—Plants that have bloomed during the winter should now be planted out in a moderately enriched border in a partially shaded situation, keeping the bulb or corm about an inch underneath the surface. Reduce the ball of earth considerably before planting.

Roses.—In the open air roses will require close attention to guard against the attacks of the rose slug, which, if allowed to increase, will soon ruin the plants. Dry air slacked lime scattered over the leaves while they are wet will soon destroy them. Another remedy consists in dissolving half a pound of whale oil soap in four gallons of water. Apply by syringing thoroughly in the evening.

Amarantus Seeds.—Some find difficulty in getting plants from amarantus seeds. It is because sufficient care is not used. The seed is fine, needs to be sown in fine soil, covered lightly, moisture applied in a spray, or else allowed to pass up underneath wetting all the soil and then be drained off. The plants want a warm place, but air enough to keep them from getting drawn. Do not plant out until weather is quite warm.

Strawberries.—Prepare the land for strawberries by heavy manuring, deep plowing, and making it mellow and fine so that the roots can run freely. Set the plants as early in spring as the ground can be made ready. Select the varieties which have been proved most valuable in your locality. When planting do not let the roots become dry. Carry them about in a pan with sufficient water to keep the roots moist. Spread out the roots in fan shape when setting.

Different distances are adopted for planting; good ones are 3 feet for the rows and 18 inches for the plants. Hoe, cultivate and keep clean during the summer.

Insect Pests and Fungous Diseases.—Our friends are applying to us by means of numerous letters daily for information about insects and various diseases of plants. We can probably do them no better service than to call their attention to a bulletin lately issued by the U. S. Department of Agriculture, bearing the title of the caption above, and otherwise being known as Farmers' Bulletin No. 7. It has special reference to spraying fruits, and yet the insecticides and fungicides are of more general application, and of interest to all gardeners, farmers and fruit-growers. This publication can be had by writing for it, to the U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

Dwarf Nasturtiums.—The low-growing tropaeolums are among the most desirable of garden annuals. They are free growing, seldom troubled with insects, bear flowers for a long

will be the uprooting of the original plants, and it will be well to start them where some friendly hand can protect them."

Tuberoses.—Frequent inquiries are made in regard to blooming tuberoses. Those who find that their bulbs grow but do not bloom may be sure that the germs of the flowers included in the bulb are dead—killed by cold. Such bulbs will never bloom. When the bulbs are taken up in the fall they need to be placed away and kept during winter in a warm and dry room—in a temperature of sixty degrees or more. Blooming bulbs are usually about an inch in diameter. Young bulbs not of blooming size should be stored away and kept warm and be planted out the following spring for another season's growth which should bring them to a size large enough to bloom the succeeding year. The great damage that tuberose incur is usually caused by cold and moisture during the resting season. In a warm and dry room green fly is apt to breed on the bulbs and, if neglected, will injure them; therefore examine the stock



DWARF TROPAEOLUM.

time and in great profusion, and their grace and beauty please everybody. The colors have a considerable range from modest to gay. In a cut state the flowers are lasting, and every garden should afford a bountiful supply of them.

Some Nice Plants.—To raise good plants from seeds of Chinese primrose, gloxinia, cineraria and calceolaria indicates more than ordinary gardening skill. Begonias often fail with them, and there are some who "never have any luck" in raising plants from the finer seeds and never will, for the reason that they do not have the patience to use the proper care with them. To start with they are lacking in the genuine love of plants. They may like well enough to see fine flowers, but they would rather some one else should raise them. Not so with the true plant-lover. We should be pleased to have statements for publication from any of our readers who may successfully raise these plants this spring, and thus encourage young plant growers.

Forget-me-not.—Charles L. Mann, in *Garden and Forest*, notices the fact that the European forget-me-not, *Myosotis palustris*, has become naturalized, near Two Rivers, Wisconsin. It was planted there many years ago by an intelligent German, Charles Kuehn, and now it is permanently established. The spot where it was first planted is a meadow where a brook takes its rise, and now "all spring and summer this meadow, as well as the bottom of the brook and its sloping banks down to where it flows into Lake Michigan, are a sheet of beautiful blue."

"Nothing is easier," says the writer, "than to establish the forget-me-not. If it is only set where the seed can reach a flowing stream, in a short time it will have spread wherever the water runs. The only danger to guard against

several times during the season and if green fly is found destroy it by fumigating with tobacco.

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NEW YORK CITY.

For Vick's Boys and Girls.

JACK.

DEL. DEMAR.

Little Jack Latham awoke one morning and found himself famous. He found it out before breakfast, too, which was unfortunate, for it took his appetite away; not so very unfortunate, either, when we consider that he had only ten cents to invest and if he spent that for his breakfast he would not have the slightest idea where his dinner was coming from; but that was a trifling matter as he never began at breakfast time to worry about his dinner. He dined at such a queer restaurant—Cafe Chance it might have been called. The head waiter's name was Fate. Sometimes Fate chose to be very disagreeable and make him wait a long time for his meals, and on several occasions had been known to postpone poor little Jack's dinner hour until the next day.

But Jack never made any fuss about it. He took whatever Fate brought him, and if it was much or little, good or bad, made the best of it.

But this morning he might have had a very fair breakfast, if he had not caught sight of a morning paper. You see, he bought the papers to sell, for he was a man of business in a small way. He sold papers morning and night and employed the hours in between by earning a few cents here and there in various ways.

On this particular morning he saw his own name at the top of the announcement column, in capital letters; he had to look at it several times to be sure that it meant "Jack Latham," the printer had made it look so queer. He read

MASTER J. HAROLD LATHAM

the

WONDERFUL BOY SINGER

Will make his first appearance at — Hall, on Wednesday evening, May 5, etc."

"J. Harold Latham!" how funny it looked! yet that was his name—John Harold—but it was a long time since he had heard it that way. He had become so accustomed to Jack that he almost forgot he was John Harold. He had been called Jack ever since his mother died; she had called him Harold. The boys called him Jack; so did old Mrs. Thompson, who had done more for him than anyone else, as she gave him a place to sleep. That is, she let him sleep with her grandson Jimmie; but there was no knowing how long she would be able to show him this kindness, for she and Jimmie might not even have a place to sleep much longer.

She had not been able to pay her rent for nearly two months and unless she would pay something before the next month's rent became due she was in danger of finding her poor little furniture out on the street. Jack had gone without several meals in order to help her out a little.

As long as she was well she managed to pay for the three rooms, although they sometimes went a little bit hungry in order to do it, but she had been ill a long time and now her work was slow in coming back to her and it was very hard to pay for both lodging and food. It had taken nearly all she and Jimmie could earn lately to buy food, and they never had more than two meals a day; they were not what are generally termed "square meals" either, but they managed to keep alive and lived principally on hope—they could afford that, for it did not cost any more than despair, although the poor old lady would have served up a dish of the latter sometimes if it had not been for merry hearted Jimmie, who wouldn't allow it in the house.

But about Jack's fame! This is the way it all happened. He was selling flowers one day on Fourteenth St., late in the afternoon, and he had a number of bouquets on his little tray which he couldn't afford to lose—they had not been any too fresh when he bought them and if he didn't dispose of them at once they might wilt on his hands.

There were a dozen other young flower mer-

chants trying to dispose of their pretty wares up and down the street and they were vying with each other to attract the attention of the shoppers.

"What can we do to get the crowd here?" said Jack to his little friend Nannie Crehan, who had a few bunches of pansies left in her basket.

"I tell yer, Jack—sing something! that'll bring 'em. Sing 'Just a little sunshine.'"

"All right," said Jack, "I'll try it; anything to draw trade."

They soon had a crowd about them; he sang

Just a little sunshine,
Just a little pain,
Just a little pleasure,
Just a little pain.

while Nannie sold the flowers. They were soon gone and he stopped singing; the crowd moved on, all but one gentleman who touched the boy's shoulder as he started to go and said:

"Say, boy, who taught you to sing like that?"

Jack laughed and looked a little awkward.

"Oh, you see, sir, I have to get the crowd and sell my flowers some way."

"But you've got a fine voice, boy. Where do you live, and what's your name?"

Jack answered his questions and then went away and forgot all about it until a few days later, when he met the same gentlemen not far from his own street.

"Ah! here you are, Jack," he said; "I was just going to hunt you up."

After talking a few minutes he offered Jack fifty cents to come to his studio on Union Square the next morning at ten o'clock. He went regularly after that for several weeks, receiving his half dollar each time. His duty was to sit for two hours every day, with a crimson scarf draped carelessly over his shoulders to cover his ragged jacket, while his new friend put his face on canvas. Then, when the sitting was over, he was taken to another room in the same building, where Signor Gretelli heard him sing and made him go through certain vocal exercises for nearly an hour. Sometimes he received a whole dollar instead of a half, and his friend said to him, "We'll have your voice trained and some day you'll make your fortune with it."

But that fortune looked so far away to Jack, and his present needs were so near, he was not far-sighted enough to look beyond them. He did not fully appreciate the kindness of his new friends, who were not rich, only struggling young artists, but Mr. Dunbar had become interested in Jack's handsome, boyish face and sweet voice and had spoken to his friend Signor Gretelli about him. They determined to give the boy a lift, to show him, at least, what possibilities there were within him. Jack enjoyed the singing lessons; as for the sittings, well, they were tiresome for an active, fun-loving boy, but the half dollar was ample compensation. One day Mr. Dunbar asked him if he would sing at a concert at the C— Hall some night.

"What! right before a crowd of people?"

"Certainly, why not? You sang to a crowd of people on Fourteenth St. that day."

Then Jack looked down at his shabby clothes and up at Mr. Dunbar with a careless laugh.

"Guess they wouldn't let me in with these togs on, would they?"

"Oh, you needn't wear those. I'll see that you have a new suit if you'll promise to sing your very best."

Of course he agreed to this proposal and Mr. Dunbar told him to come on a certain day and go with him for his new clothes, and that is all Jack knew about it,—until he saw his name in the paper.

His papers did not go off as fast as usual that morning, perhaps he did not keep watch for his regular customers and some of them patronized other boys; and when ten o'clock came he had several papers on hand, but he met Jimmie Thompson and gave them to him.

"Here, Jimmie," he said, "you can have these; I've got to go to Mr. Dunbar's."

"Thought you didn't have to go any more? You said the picture was all painted."

"Well, so 'tis; but he's going to give me a

new suit of clothes if I go up this morning. I'm going to sing in a big hall next Wednesday night."

Jack didn't mean to put on airs but he could not help looking a little bit important as he said this. Jimmie didn't notice it, though.

Just then Nannie Crehan came along.

"Oh, Jack!" she exclaimed, "did yer see yer picture in the winder?"

"What winder?"

"Oh, down there in the drug store. It looks just like you, only there's a scarf or some fancy thing over your shoulders. It says J. Harold Latham under it."

Jack and Jimmie started on a run, not even thanking Nannie for her information. Sure enough! there was a big card hanging up in the window with a picture of Jack on it and the announcement that J. Harold Latham would sing at — Hall on Wednesday evening.

"How'd they get yer picture, Jack?" asked Jimmie.

"Don't know any more than you do! Oh, I tell yer! I guess it's a photograf of the picture Mr. Dunbar painted."

It was a lithograph, but of course Jack didn't know; he just stood and grinned at it and wondered if he was really as good looking as that.

"See here, Jimmie, you sell those papers; I'm going up to Mr. Dunbar's studio;" and he started on a run, but Jimmie, who had been looking at that column in the paper, called him back.

"Look here, Jack! this paper says something more about you!"

Jack turned back. He began to feel quite an interest in J. Harold Latham now and wanted to know all about him. He took the paper and read at the end of the article about the boy singer:

"Mr. Wilber Dunbar, the artist, has just finished a fine portrait of the young singer. It is now on exhibition at the — Gallery."

"Cricketty! I'm goin', Jim! if you see anything more in that paper 'bout me, save it till I get back."

Jimmie looked over the paper carefully; there were several other items, but nothing of any great interest as far as he and Jack were concerned.

Well, that's about the way it happened. Jack's voice found friends for him. That first concert brought him no money, but the handsome boy singer was in demand after that for parlors and concerts, and gold pieces found their way into the pockets of that new suit far more easily than silver had ever crept into the old one. Jimmie Thompson and his grandmother were not turned out of their rooms, and they even indulged in three meals a day. Jack went to stay with Mr. Dunbar and after a while they went to Italy together, one to paint and the other to sing. They are back now and the artist has a picture at the — Exhibition that is attracting a great deal of attention, while J. Harold Latham, the Tenor, has already made engagements that will bring him before the public very soon. He is working hard and can appreciate all that has been done for him. He will soon be able to draw the musical world about him as easily as he drew that little crowd on Fourteenth St. a few years ago.

If not a subscriber to Vick's Magazine why not become so this week? It is only 50 cents per annum; five copies for \$2.00.

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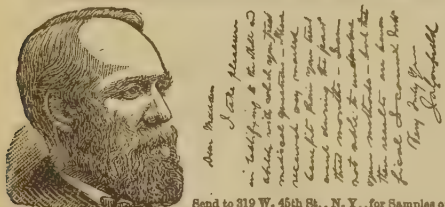
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Take fresh paint out of wearing apparel by rubbing with gasoline.
Grease spots in cloth may be taken out by applying a solution of salt in alcohol.
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Lemons will keep fresh for weeks if covered with water; the water must be changed often.
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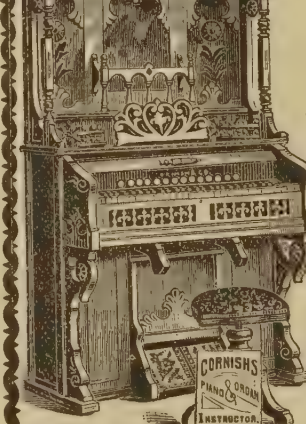
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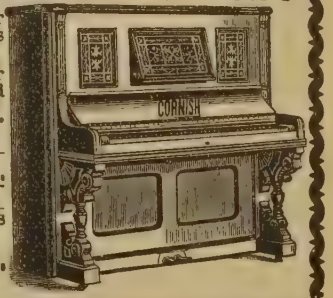
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ODD GARDEN ORNAMENTS.

So many urns and fancy vases in our gardens and grounds are simply filled and crowded with masses of flowers that an occasional bit of ingenuity in this direction would be a welcome change in many places.

A welcome correspondent sends in some sketches, which we reproduce,

showing how he utilized a half hoghead and an old furnace pot. They were filled two thirds full of large stones, with turf turned up side down and then soil, in between an occasional sharp rock sticking out. A diminutive house was built and painted, and in one case paths were laid out, in the other a small lake was made by sinking an old pan.



A HOUSE AND LOT IN A HOGHEAD.

Dwarf plants and vines were selected which would not run riot. Around the "lakelet" some lycopodium was planted and a little tin boat floated near a boat-house and the old mill. Most any ingenious boy or man can manufacture these houses in a short time. The tubs should be painted a quiet color, while the bright colors can be put on the buildings. If the pond were made deep enough and the water renewed frequently, a fish or two would add to the attraction. One side of the pan or dish can be made a little lower than the other so that the water could run over and off through the holes which should be provided in the bottom.

The Japanese excel in this sort of miniature gardening and we reproduce a picture such as would be suitable and not swamp everything by overgrowth. Coke makes an excellent substitute for stone and can be cemented together in odd shapes. The Japanese are a very singular people, and the more we become acquainted with their products and ingenuity, the more our curiosity changes to genuine admiration. In

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floriculture as well as in all decorative art work they are exceedingly tasteful and exhibit great skill, a wonderful degree of patience and fine manipulation. We published in 1880 a sketch from a Japanese photograph of a natural landscape, with house, bridge, trees, shrubs and brooklet, all in the space of an ordinary wooden bowl, which was an odd specimen of Japanese industry. These landscapes are real, that is the houses are toy houses, but the vegetation is made of dwarfed specimens of pines and other native trees and natural shrubs in actual growth. This dwarfing process extends over years of careful tending and fine specimens of these living miniature landscapes bring a high price in the market.



A TUB WITH LAKE AND SCENERY.

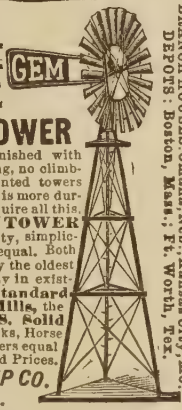
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Nellie's Trip to Bun-Land.

LITTLE Nell'd been "helping mamma." She had swept the porch and hall, And had got so tired and hungry that she sat down by the wall, Just to rest herself a moment, with her broom across her knee;

When a strange thing happened to her, as she tells the tale to me; She just shut her eyes a moment, so her little story runs, When she went away to somewhere, where the children gather buns; They were growing on the bushes, and were hanging from the trees, Sweet enough to tempt the palate of the honey-loving bees.

"O, they was the very doodest buns that ever was," says she, And she smacks her lips, remembering, as she tells the tale to me, How she ate in that strange country that's not down on any map, Bun-fruit from the roadside bushes, when they thought she took a nap.

There were lots and lots of children in this very pleasant place, And it seemed that all were hungry, and, as happened in her case, They had come there without knowing how they came, but all agreed 'Twas a most delightful country—quite liky fairy-land, indeed.

Such a jolly, jolly country, where they played the nicest games, And the children knew each other, though they couldn't tell their names; "Dest the bestest place that ever I was in," says little Nell; "An' the buns—O, my?" Words fail her when their sweetness she would tell.

"How did you get back from Bun-land?" Grandma asks, with laughing eye, As she listens to the story; "Did you walk, or ride, or fly?" "I don't know," is Nellie's answer, with a puzzled face and air; "I tum back all in a minit, but I know that I was there."

"Pshaw, you dreamed it," says her brother, "for I saw you fast asleep On the steps." But "No," says Nellie, with a faith she means to keep In that pleasant, pleasant country where the buns on bushes grow; "I'm dest sure that I went somewhere, an' I didn't dream, I know."

Eben E. Rexford, in *The Home Magazine*.

Big Tree of California.

Professor Sargent, of Harvard University, has secured some large specimen sections of the Sequoia from a canon east of Visalia, California. The tree from which the cross sections were cut was eight feet in diameter at a height of 240 feet. The whole height of the tree is not mentioned. The first section, cut near the base of the tree, is 25 feet in diameter, and four feet in the length of the grain. After this section had been made another was cut as near the same size as possible. The first one is to be exhibited in Central Park, New York, and the other is to go to the British Museum, London. The cutting was completed last October, but the approach of winter stopped further proceedings. Now the sections are being cut into movable pieces, and it is expected that they will be shipped to their destination in May.

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Lawn Flower Stand.

Here is a pretty flower stand for the lawn, from *The Orchard and Garden*, which was contrived by an ingenious woman out of three cracked chopping bowls that she had been too thrifty to throw away.

Three strong stakes were driven firmly into the ground, at the proper distance apart, and hooks screwed into them. The bowls were then secured in place by strong wire wound around and through the hooks, and the whole was painted a dark green. When the lowest bowl was filled with ferns; the middle, with nasturtiums, and the top with showy rudbeckias, she had added, without expense, an attractive feature to the lawn.



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E. ROSS & CO., Toledo, Ohio.

To Fruit Growers.

The attention of our readers is called to the advertisement of the Blymyer Iron Works Co., of Cincinnati, Ohio, which appears in this issue. Their Zimmerman Evaporators for Fruits and Vegetables have for many years been looked upon as the Standard Machines. Parties in want of Evaporating Machinery will do well to write for their catalogue.

There is a little lady living in Brooklyn, the wife of the writer of this, who has kept house nearly twenty-five years, without one of Sherman & Butler's Perfection Flour Bins and Sieves. She has one now and thinks it is the handiest thing she ever saw for the kitchen department and wondered the other day how she had got along without it. Every housewife ought to have one.

FOR A GOOD, SAFE INVESTMENT:—BUY GRIFFITH LOTS

WHY?

Griffith is the coming great factory suburb of Chicago—because it is the only one having two oil pipe lines and four railroads—including a complete Belt Line.

Low freights and cheap fuel attract factories—factories bring population—population makes large cities out of small suburbs. If you can sow your savings in a small but growing suburb, and reap your harvest in a large city, that's shrewd investing!

Griffith is still new—ground-floor chances there yet—and on easy terms. Residence lots as cheap as \$120—best ones \$300; business lots \$350—best ones \$650. Monthly payments \$4 to \$15, if desired, with interest at six per cent.

Discounts for half or all cash.

HOW?

The choicest locations can now be had in two new additions—but best lots go fast! To be sure of them send \$10 per lot deposit* and we will immediately reserve for you the best unsold of the kind and price you specify—guaranteed high and dry—and will send marked plat and full particulars. You can then investigate fully, and if not suited exchange for any lots unsold.

Or, if you prefer to take the risk of losing choicest locations, send first for plat and select for yourself. Sent free—We are only waiting for your address; here is ours:

JAY DWIGGINS & CO.

Founders and Promoters of Griffith

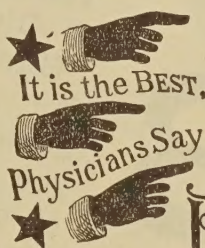
Suite 40—140 Washington St., Chicago, U.S.A.

*We refer as to our standing to the Columbia and Metropolitan National Banks, of Chicago.



BICYCLES GIVEN AWAY

FREE TO BOYS & GIRLS UNDER 15.
If any Boy or Girl wants an elegant High Grade Safety Bicycle (26 inch wheels) free on easy conditions, write at once to
WESTERN PEARL CO., Chicago, Ill.



HALL'S Vegetable Sicilian HAIR RENEWER

Thickens the growth and restores the youthful color to Gray Hair. Prevents Baldness, cures Dandruff, Humors, and all Scalp Diseases. A fine hair dressing.

Buckingham's Dye for the Whiskers

The most complete Brown or Black Dye ever discovered. The gentlemen's favorite.

R. P. HALL & Co., Proprietors, Nashua, N.H.
Sold by all Druggists.



We Sell DIRECT to FAMILIES
PIANOS ORGANS
\$150 to \$1500 \$35 to \$500.

Absolutely Perfect!

Sent for trial in your own home before you buy. Local Agents must sell inferior instruments or charge double what we ask. Catalogue free
MARSHAL & SMITH PIANO CO.,
255 East 21st St., N.Y.



The American Hog

is finally admitted into foreign countries, but he must be presented in a healthy condition. Now look for a boom for those who can raise superior, healthy breed of hogs. Editor of one of our leading Agricultural papers truly remarks, "that in purchasing hogs for breeders they

should not be taken from any locality where cholera has been discovered;" and further adds, "that the great importance of getting good stock to begin with, cannot be over estimated." The genuine O. I. C. hog approximates nearest to absolute perfection which the breeder's art has attained. To assimilate food, they are without a peer. Their breathing power seems to be unequalled, which enables them to bid defiance to disease, unknown to other breeds. To convince everyone of the truthfulness of the above, and our implicit confidence in the superiority of the O. I. C. hogs, we will agree to sell a pair of pigs, or a sow bred, on time, and give agency to the first applicant from each locality.

THE L. B. SILVER CO.,
CLEVELAND, OHIO.

When writing to advertisers, mention Vick's Magazine.

Ampelopsis for Window Boxes.

The article in last month's MAGAZINE, on the use of the Japanese ivy, by the Germans, for luxuriant hanging baskets attracted considerable attention. A gentleman who has lived in England, says it is very common there, particularly in London, used in window boxes, both for trailing foliage and to grow on wires, running up both sides of the windows with very pretty effect and in some cases making a very neat screen to windows exposed to the street. In the fall the boxes are put away in the back yard and slightly protected. Of course it will stand any amount of pruning and being so easily propagated is very popular.

THE MONON ROUTE.

The Pullman Vestibuled Car line between CHICAGO, LAFAYETTE, LOUISVILLE, CHICAGO, INDIANAPOLIS and CINCINNATI.

The only line serving meals in a regular Dining Car between Chicago and Cincinnati.

Ask for tickets via, the "Monon."

JAMES BARKER, G. P. Ag't, CHICAGO.

A FINE STRING OF FISH

makes a man proud to bring home (particularly if he can let somebody see them) and the good wife or mother will cook them to a turn, making a most delightful breakfast. We have daily calls for most everything that can be bought in a large city. Among these are numerous calls for

FISHING TACKLE

Therefore we have decided to accommodate our readers and have made arrangements to supply FIRST CLASS goods at very low prices.

Our \$1.00 Outfit.

- 2 doz. Gut Hooks assorted sizes.
- 2 Mackinac Sinkers.
- 1 Egg-shaped Float.
- 1 Spoon.
- 1 Silk Worm Gut Leader.
- 50 foot Linen Line.
- Mailed on receipt of price.

Our \$2.00 Outfit.

The same as the above (No. 1) with the following additional tackle:

- 1 Polished Brass Reel.
- 1 Extra Spoon.
- 1 Twisted Silk Line (45 feet.)
- 2 doz. Fancy Flies.
- Mailed on receipt of price.

Our \$3.00 Outfit.

Same as No. 2 (which includes No. 1) and the following additional requisites:

- 1 Nickel Plated Dressed Trolling Spoon, with Fly, Bass or Pickerel.
- 1 Two-bladed Fly Spoon.
- 4 Leaders, with swinging loops at knots.
- 1 Artificial Frog, for Pickerel.
- Mailed on receipt of price.

Our \$5.00 Outfit.

All that the Nos. 1, 2 and 3 contain and the following:

- 1 Landing or Dip Net.
- 1 Rubber Helgamite Bait for Bass.
- 1 Bass or Boat Rod, brass mounted, double ferruled, cap-but, funnel tip, guide rings and reel bands; hollow but, and an extra lance wood tip, 9 feet long.
- Sent by express, on receipt of the price, at expense of purchaser.

Fishermen, those that want to fish and catch something, need first class tackle, and in the above outfits we are sure they will be perfectly satisfied.

Address all orders to

VICK PUBLISHING CO.,
Rochester, N. Y.



DRUNKENNESS

The Liquor Habit permanently cured. All desire for Alcoholic stimulants quickly removed without knowledge of the patient, if desired. Treatise for home cure mailed in confidence. The Yale Hygiene Co., Box 1725, New Haven, Conn.

SALESMEN WANTED

to sell our goods by sample to the wholesale and retail trade. Liberal salary and expenses paid. Permanent position. Money advanced for wages, advertising, etc. For full particulars and reference address CENTENNIAL MFG. CO., CHICAGO, ILL.



HARTSHORN'S SELF-ACTING SHADE-ROLLERS

Beware of Imitations.

NOTICE
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OF

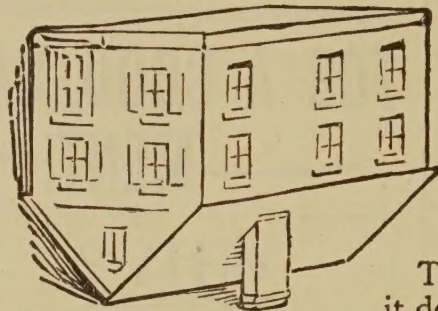
Stewart Hartshorn ON LABEL AND GET THE GENUINE



HARTSHORN

"Turned Upside Down"

Is your home in this sad plight—many are and house-cleaning does it. Cold meals and no comfort, sour tempers and aching backs, hard work and too much of it, tired women and "mad" men—all from house-cleaning. And it's all needless.



Don't make such a fuss over it. Take a little *Pearline*, and have it done easily, quickly and quietly.

You'll have it done better, too—you won't have to rub the paint off to get the dirt off. You can save half your labor and half your time, if you'll clean house with *Pearline*—and everybody in the house will be thankful for it. Millions use nothing but *Pearline* for washing and cleaning

Turn
the Key

On the peddlers and grocers who tell you "this as good as," or "the same as" *Pearline*. IT'S FALSE; besides *Pearline* is never peddled.

307

JAMES PYLE, New York.

7/8

of our troubles arise from our not being able to distinguish right from wrong! This is your position in regard to Tea!!

Give "Bhud," "Tiffin" or "Bungalow" brands of Tea a fair trial. Use one-third the quantity; make properly, and you will find a golden liquid of exquisite flavor; healthful—not producing nervousness—owing to the iron impregnated soil upon which the Tea is grown; economical, because it is unadulterated, pure and strong. Right Tea made right is what we want to get you to try.

Ask Grocers for our Brands.

The Ceylon Planters' Tea Company,
Capital—\$1,000,000,
110 Fifth Avenue, cor. 16th St.,
New York City.

VICK'S

ILLUSTRATED MONTHLY

MAGAZINE.

DEVOTED TO CHOICE LITERATURE, FLOWER CULTURE AND HOME INTERESTS.

Vick Publishing Co. }
Fifty Cents Per Year. }

ROCHESTER, N. Y., JUNE, 1892.

{ Volume 15, No. 8.
New Series. }



WILD ROSES FROM THE ROAD SIDE.

The Rose Would Blush.



All through the sweet, bright
 springtime
 I dreamed of a perfect day
 That would come to the world
 in summer.
 The rose would blush red on its
 spray ;
 The sky would be bright with a sun-
 shine
 That never a shadow knew ;
 The bird by its nest be singing
 In the joy of a dream come true.
 A day like a flawless jewel,—
 Perfection's seal and sign,—
 There'd be nothing to miss or mourn for
 In this perfect day of mine.
 Days came that were full of beauty,
 And all the world was gay,
 But always something was lacking
 To make the perfect day.
 In the sweet midsummer music
 There would suddenly come a jar,
 A blot on the rose's brightness,—
 Something to spoil or mar.
 But I held to my faith and waited
 The crowning day of the year,
 Without sight or sound of sorrow,
 And at last I thought it here.
 How the rose glowed in the sunshine !
 How the birds sang in the tree !
 What grandeur crowned the mountains !
 What glory was on the sea !
 The day was a wonderful poem
 Set to a tune of gold.
 My heart was a-brim with a rapture
 No words have ever told !
 But ah ! as I breathed the fragrance
 From a rose whose time was brief,
 I read earth's old, old story
 In a sere and yellow leaf !

—Eben E. Rexford.

Chorus of Flowers.

"Wild-rose, Sweet-brier, Eglantine,
 All these pretty names are mine,
 And scent in every leaf is mine,
 And a leaf for all is mine,
 And the scent—oh, that's divine !
 Happy-sweet and pungent fine,
 Pure as dew, and picked as wine."

—Leigh Hunt.

"For if I wait," said she,
 "Till time for roses be—
 For the moss rose and the musk rose,
 Maiden blush and royal-dusk rose—
 What glory then for me
 In such company?
 Roses plenty, roses plenty,
 And one nightingale for twenty?"

—Mrs. Browning.

A RAMBLE IN WONDERLAND.

Some of the most artistic advertising matter that comes from the press is that published by the Northern Pacific Railroad. The season of 1892 brings from that road a book entitled "A Ramble Through Wonderland," containing 105 pages, with over twenty-five handsome illustrations. The printed matter graphically describes the territory between the great lakes and the Pacific Ocean, with brief mention of Yellowstone Park and Alaska. Other interesting publications are the Yellowstone Park and Alaska folders (illustrated), containing excellent maps respectively of the resorts mentioned, and telling in an interesting manner of the most beautiful and marvelous regions on the face of the earth; the Broadwater folder, relating to the famous Hot Springs and Natatorium, at Helena, Montana, and "National Game Preserve of North America," a book of special interest to sportsmen. These publications are distributed free, and can be obtained on application to CHAS. S. FEE, General Passenger and Ticket Agent, St. Paul, Minn.

THE LINE OF LAKES.

The above name has been applied to the Wisconsin Central Lines on account of the large number of lakes and summer resorts tributary to its lines. Among some of the well-known summer resorts are Fox Lake, Ill., Lake Villa, Ill., Waukeshah, Mukwonago, Cedar Lake, Neenah, Waupaca, Fifeield, Butternut and Ashland, Wis. These lakes abound in numerous species of fish, such as black bass, rock bass, pickerel, pike, perch, muskallonge, while sportsmen will find an abundance of game, such as ducks, geese, quails, snipe, etc. In the grandeur of her scenery, the charming beauty of her rustic landscapes and the rare perfection of her summer climate, the state of Wisconsin is acknowledged to be without a peer in the union. Her fame as a refreshing retreat for the overheated, careworn inhabitants of the great cities during the midsummer months, has extended southward as far as the Gulf of Mexico and eastward to the Atlantic. Pamphlets giving valuable information can be obtained free upon application to GEO. R. FITCH, G. E. A. Wis. Cen. Lines, New York, N. Y., or JAS. C. POND, General Passenger and Ticket Agent, Chicago, Ill.

THE MONON ROUTE.

The Pullman Vestibuled Car line between Chicago, Lafayette, Louisville. Chicago, Indianapolis and Cincinnati.

The only line serving meals in a regular Dining Car between Chicago and Cincinnati.

Ask for tickets via the "Monon."

JAMES BARKER, G. P. Ag't, Chicago.

HOW TO DESTROY INSECTS ON PLANTS AND FLOWERS IN THE GARDEN AND THE HOUSE.

is the title of a little book giving "five dollars' worth of information and ten dollars' worth of future comfort" for 30cts. It takes up every insect in turn, tells simplest way of disposing of them, explains how to rid the house of flies, moths, bugs, and every form of insect which may annoy the housekeeper. SPECIAL OFFER TO VICK'S SUBSCRIBERS. This book and "the best poultry paper published," FARM POULTRY, sent six months only 40c., or the book and F. P. one year 60c. Farm-Poultry teaches "how to make money with a few hens." FARM-POULTRY, 20 Custom House St., Boston.

THOSE ANSWERING AN ADVERTISEMENT WILL CONFER A FAVOR UPON THE ADVERTISER AND THE PUBLISHER BY STATING THAT THEY SAW THE ADVERTISEMENT IN VICK'S MAGAZINE.

A NURSE'S NOTES ABOUT BABIES.

By Miss M. H. Beebe.

I want mothers everywhere to see the pictures of three babies that I took charge of after their mothers had given up all hopes of rearing them. They had tried nearly everything in the way of foods before I took the cases.



RUTH.

Ruth was a year and a half old when I took charge of her, and was not so large as a well child at seven months. Her flesh was soft, flabby, and wet with perspiration all the time. She hardly stopped crying, did not sleep nights, and was so weak that she could scarcely sit up. No one thought she could live. I put her on lactated food, and in a few weeks her flesh was hard and solid, she slept well nights, and was running all around, as well as any child.

When first I took Alice she was in a terrible condition,—cried night and day, head all scales, no natural movement of the bowels. The trouble was improper food and too much medicine. Lactated food and good care made her what the picture shows.

The third child, Florence, was even worse off than Ruth when I first saw her. She wanted to eat all the time, but threw off her food as soon as swallowed. Lactated food had the same magical effect in her case, and that the child is alive today is, I believe, due solely to the use of this pure food.

With all three of these babies nearly every food had been tried without success before I used the lactated. I could mention many other cases where the lactated was the only food that agreed. My long experience has fully proven that none of the other foods equal it in making solid flesh, and giving that perfect health which shows itself in good sleep at night and happiness in the day time.

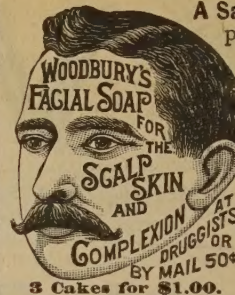


FLORENCE.

The author of the above is Miss M. H. Beebe, Springfield, Mass., a nurse of long experience. The facts she describes prove that Lactated Food makes the sick baby well, and keeps the well baby a picture of health. This food is not a medicine,—simply nature's substitute for mother's milk that has saved many a little one's life. All reputable druggists sell it, or it will be mailed on receipt of price,—25 cents, 50 cents, or \$1.00. Book of prize babies and beautiful birthday card free to any mother sending her baby's name. WELLS, RICHARDSON & Co., Burlington, Vt.

I is a mistake to look for perfection in humanity: "We are all human."

There is a better manner of spending one's life than by arguing questions of no importance.



A Sample Cake of Soap and 128 page Book on Dermatology and Beauty; Illustrated; on Skin, Scalp, Nervous and Blood diseases sent sealed for 10c.; also Disfigurements, like Birth Marks, Moles, Warts, India Ink and Powdermarks, Scars, Pittings, Redness of Nose, Superfluous Hair, Pimples, etc. John H. Woodbury, Dermatologist, 125 W. 42d Street, New York City. Consultation free, at office or by letter.

A NEW BOOK OF HOUSE DESIGNS.

Second Edition published Feb. 15, 1892. 116 Pages 8x11.



Artistic Dwellings.

Views, Floor Plans, and Estimates of Cost.

A \$1200 COTTAGE.

56 designs for dwellings are shown, ranging in cost from \$650 to \$10,000. Many cheap ones. More and better ideas on tasteful and economical building can be obtained from this book than from anything yet published. Sent, prepaid, for \$1.00.

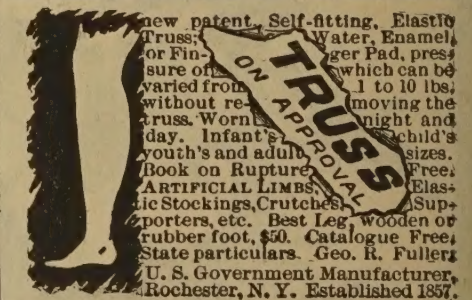
F. P. ALLEN, Architect, Houseman Block, Grand Rapids, Mich. When writing to advertisers, mention Vick's Magazine.



Hellmuth College, LONDON, Ontario, Canada.


For Young Ladies & Girls. Beautiful Home. Healthy Climate. Full Academic Course. Music, Art, Elocution, etc. Passenger Elevator. 150 Acres. Students from 25 Provinces and States. For illus. catalogue, address Rev. E. N. ENGLISH, M. A., Principal. When writing to advertisers, mention Vick's Magazine.

BOILING WATER OR MILK.
EPPS'S
GRATEFUL-COMFORTING.
COCOA
LABELLED 1-2 LB. TINS ONLY.



When writing to advertisers, mention Vick's Magazine.

FENCING
WIRE ROPE SELVAGE.
McMULLEN'S
RABBIT & POULTRY FENCING.
Freight Paid. McMULLEN WOVEN WIRE FENCE CO., CHICAGO.
When writing to advertisers, mention Vick's Magazine.



BARRY'S TRICOPHEROUS

FOR THE HAIR AND SKIN.

An elegant dressing exquisitely perfumed, removes all impurities from the scalp, prevents baldness and gray hair, and causes the hair to grow Thick, Soft and Beautiful. Infallible for curing eruptions, diseases of the skin, glands and muscles, and quickly healing cuts, burns, bruises, sprains, &c.

All Druggists or by Mail, 50 cts.

BARCLAY & Co., 44 Stone St., New York.